

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5652
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AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS CASABLANCA 2014

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, MO
SUBJ: TEXT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS FAREWELL STATEMENT

REF: CASABLANCA 2007 (NOTAL)

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE VERBATIM TEXT OF THE STATEMENT MADE BY
THE HON. HAROLD SAUNDERS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS, TO THE MOROCCAN RADIO AT
THE TIME OF HIS DEPARTURE FROM CASABLANCA ON
JULY 23, 1978.

2. BEGIN TEXT. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO HIS MAJESTY AND TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT FOR HAVING GIVEN ME
SUCH A WARM RECEPTION IN MOROCCO. I AM PERSONALLY
PLEASED THAT MY VISIT TO MOROCCO IS MY FIRST VISIT TO
ONE OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA OF MY RESPONSABILITY
NOW THAT I HAVE ASSUMED DUTIES AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA.

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3. HIS MAJESTY GAVE ME A LONG AUDIENCE, DURING WHICH
WE WERE ABLE TO HAVE A THOUGHTFUL AND PROBING EXCHANGE
OF VIEWS ABOUT INTERESTS WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO BOTH
OUR COUNTRIES.

4. THIS IS A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN THE EFFORT TO ACHIEVE A

RESOLUTION OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, AND HIS MAJESTY'S
VIEWS ON THE PROCESS OF MOVING TOWARDS PEACE IN THAT AREA
ARE ALWAYS MOST IMPORTANT TO US.

5. MOROCCO IS PLAYING A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN DEVELOPMENTS IN
AFRICA, AND THE UNITED STATES TODAY IS MAKING AN INTENSIVE EFFORT
DIPLOMATICALLY TO HELP MOVE TOWARDS PEACE AND ORDERLY PROGRESS
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

6. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT FOR US TO TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY
IN OUR CONSLTATIONS WITH OUR MOROCCAN FRIENDS TO ASSURE THAT
THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MOROCCO
IS ON THE SOUNDTEST POSSIBLE FOOTING AND MY TALKS HERE HAVE GIVEN
ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE FULL RANGE OF OUR
COMMON INTERESTS.

7. I WILL BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON NOW AND REPORTING TO
SECRETARY VANCE ON MY CONVERSATIONS HERE. THE PRESIDENT
IS CONCERNED THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MOROCCO BE ON
THE SOUNDTEST POSSIBLE FOOTING.I AM HAPPY THAT I WILL
BE ABLE TO REPORT MY CONVICTION AS RESULT OF MY TALKS HERE
THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS STRONG AND THAT THE RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES ARE CONSTANTLY BECOMING WIDER AND WIDER.

8. MOROCCO AND THE UNITED STATES SHARE MANY INTERESTS
IN COMMON: STRATEGIC INTERESTS, ECONOMIC INTERESTS, AND A RANGE OF
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OTHER COMMON CONCERNS. OUR TALKS ON THESE ISSUES ARE ALWAYS
IMPORTANT BUT IT ALSO EXCITES ME THAT THE PEOPLES
OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE INCREASINGLY ENGAGED IN
INTERESTS WHICH ARE OF NOMMON CONCERN TO THEM: THE
AREAS OF BUSINESS, CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND OTHER AREAS OF
THIS KIND.

9. IN CONCLUSION LET ME AGAIN EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION
TO HIS MAJESTY AND TO ALL OF MY MOROCCAN FRIENDS FOR HAVING
MADE THIS VISIT SO PLEASANT AND SO FRUITFUL. THANK YOU
VERY MUCH. END TEXT.SEBASTIAN

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